(c) to (f) The recommendations received from Gas Authority of India Limited on the award of contract for the construction of the HBJ Gas pipeline are being examined by the Government. Decision is expected to be taken shortly. The tender has provided for due weightage to be given to the indigenous content in the bids.

Production of crude oil

723. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production of crude oil in the country during 1985-86;

(b) the estimated gross quantity of crude oil proposed to be imported; and

(c) whether the import of crude oil through term contract on country-to-country basis is proposed to be changed in favour of spot purchases in view of the downward trend in the international Oil prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) 29.94 million tonnes.

(b) The gross imports of crude oil are likely to be around 15 million tonnes.

(c) In view of fall in international oil prices it is proposed to import crude oil at market related prices.

LPG connections

724. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of LPG connections run to several millions in the country;

(b) if so, whether any instructions/ guidelines have been issued by the IOC and other Petroleum companies to ensure that gas stoves being marketed by authorised LPG dealers incorporate essential safety features and if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether Government consider subjecting gas stoves being sold only by authorised LPG dealers; after elaborate testing to ensure that there is no possibility of a gas leak because of faulty design or method of production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) There were about 10.1 million domestic LPG connections in the country as on December 31, 1985.

(b) and (c) LPG distributors of the oil marketing companies are authorised to sell only such LPG stoves as have the ISI certification mark. These stoves meet safety requirements. At the time of releasing a new connection, the distributor ensures that the consumer has such a gas stove. Consumers are at liberty to purchase LPG stove with ISI certification from any source.

Allocation for power generation

725. SHRI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation on account of power generation, State-wise during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) what was the allocation in the Sixth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) A statement indicating Statewise outlays for the Power Sector in the Sixth and Seventh Plan periods is enclosed.